AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A setup support system which supports setup of a computer, including installation of an operating system to be installed in a plurality of storage mediums ~~that requires initialization~~ where a RAID configuration is to be constructed, comprising:

a physical access unit configured to execute physical access to the storage mediums without intervening the operating system;

an interface unit configured to execute input operations for configuration setup of the computer, including ~~initialization of the storage medium~~ construction of the RAID configuration, at once;

a setting parameter management unit configured to store setting parameters representing input setting contents in at least one of the storage mediums before ~~initialization~~ the construction of the RAID configuration by using the physical access unit;

a medium setting unit configured to ~~initialize the storage medium after storage of the setting parameters by the setting parameter management unit~~ construct the RAID configuration while accessing the setting parameters stored in the at least one of the storage mediums by using the physical access unit; and

a setup unit configured to ~~read out the setting parameters stored in the storage medium by using the physical access unit after initialization of the storage medium by~~

~~the medium setting unit, and~~ execute setup of the computer <u>after the construction of the</u> <u>RAID configuration</u>, including <u>generation of a disk partition in each of the storage</u> <u>mediums where the RAID configuration is constructed and</u> installation of the operating system, ~~based on the setting parameters~~ <u>while accessing the setting parameters stored</u> <u>in the at least one of the storage mediums by using the physical access unit</u>.

2. (Currently Amended) The setup support system according to claim 1, wherein the physical access unit executes physical access to the storage medium<u>s</u> by invoking a function for physical access, which is prepared in a BIOS.

3. (Currently Amended) The setup support system according to claim 1, wherein the medium setting unit stores status data representing a progress situation of ~~initialization~~ <u>the construction of the RAID configuration</u> in <u>the at least one of</u> the storage medium<u>s</u> by using the physical access unit and reads out the status data from the storage medium<u>s</u> by using the physical access unit as needed.

4. (Currently Amended) The setup support system according to claim 1, wherein the setup unit converts the setting parameters read out by using the physical access unit into a data format under management of the operating system and stores the setting parameters again in the storage medium<u>s</u>.

5. (Currently Amended) The setup support system according to claim 4, wherein the setup unit stores status data representing a progress situation of <u>the generation of</u>

<u>the disk partition in each of the storage mediums where the RAID configuration is</u>

<u>constructed and the</u> installation of the operating system in the storage medium<u>s</u> in a

data format under management of the operating system and reads out the status data

from the storage medium<u>s</u> as needed.

      6. (Canceled)

      7. (Currently Amended) The setup support system according to claim 1, wherein

the medium setting unit ensures, on <u>each of</u> the storage medium<u>s</u>, an area to store the

operating system.

      8. (Withdrawn) A physical access driver to cause various kinds of programs to

execute physical access to a storage medium, comprising:

      an access request reception unit configured to receive a physical access request

to the storage medium from the program;

      a physical access execution unit configured to invoke a function for physical

access to the storage medium, which is prepared in a BIOS, based on contents of the

received physical access request; and

      an access result return unit configured to return a processing result of the

invoked function to the program.

9. (Withdrawn) The physical access driver according to claim 8, wherein the access request reception unit acquires a type of the storage medium from the program and gives a parameter corresponding to the type to the invoked function.

10. (Currently Amended) A setup support method of supporting setup of a computer, including installation of an operating system to be installed in a plurality of storage medium~~s~~ ~~that requires initialization~~ where a RAID configuration is to be constructed, the method comprising:

executing input operations for configuration setup of the computer, including ~~initialization of the storage medium~~ construction of the RAID configuration, at once;

storing setting parameters representing input setting contents in at least one of the storage medium~~s~~ before ~~initialization~~ the construction of the RAID configuration without intervening the operating system;

~~initializing the storage medium after storage of the setting parameters~~ constructing the RAID configuration while accessing the setting parameters without intervening the operating system; and

~~reading out the setting parameters stored in the storage medium after~~ ~~initialization of the storage medium, and~~ executing setup of the computer after the construction of the RAID configuration, including generation of a disk partition in each of the storage mediums where the RAID configuration is constructed and installation of the operating system, ~~based on the setting parameters~~ while accessing the setting parameters without intervening the operating system.